Army National Guard to augment 56th SFS

"Thunderbolts will see

the same faces, as

opposed to a new

augmentees every 30

2nd Lt. Kenneth Bush

flight commander

56th Security Forces Squadron

batch of READY

days."

By Airman 1st Class Kara Philp 56th Fighter Wing public Affairs

A memorandum of agreement, signed by the Air Force chief of staff just more than a month ago, will add 186 people to support security measures at Luke.

Army National Guard soldiers from the 180th Field Artillery Batallion, Mesa, Ariz., will arrive at Luke Feb. 9, to begin augmentee training from Feb. 11

through 15. Thunderbolts can expect to see soldiers working around Luke as early as Feb. 18.

"The Army stepped up and told the Air Force they would help augment Force Protection efforts at Air Force bases for two years to give the Air Force enough time to overcome the operations

tempo with both manpower and technology," said 2nd Lt. Kenneth Bush, 56th Security Forces Squadron flight commander.

Soldiers' duties will include working the gates, flightline and Random Anti-Terrorism Measure patrols, but they will not be responding as lone law enforcement patrolmen.

The Air Force has set three goals for this mobilization," said Maj. Michael Ross, 56th Security Forces Squadron commander. "First, the Air Reserve Component will be released. We currently employ about 90 reservists who will be

allowed to return to their civilian jobs. We will also return the steady stream of Luke's finest, the READY augmentees, back to their respective shops. Second, security forces squadrons worldwide will transition to eight-hour shifts — we are currently on 12-hour shifts and have been on this schedule for almost two years. Third, with the increase in homestation security capability, all security forces squadrons can expect to send more

> cops downrange. We are already seeing the writing on the wall for

Although being drawn down, the READY program will still be used, as needed, in the event of increased force protection conditions.

"The addition of the soldiers will change several things," Lieuten-

ant Bush said. "Thunderbolts will see the same faces, as opposed to a new batch of READY augmentees every 30 days. That consistency will allow the soldiers to get much more proficient at force protection than our airmen were under the current READY program. With the increased quantity and competency of our augmentees, we will be able to step up our RAM program to ensure that Luke is as secure as it can be without degrading mission capability.

Major commands Air Force-wide will be gaining Army support on or about the same day as Luke.

Mount up ...



Staff Sqt. Aaron Marcus

Lt. Col. Steven Schneider, 1st Fighter Squadron F-15 pilot, Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., climbs into an F-15E on Luke's runway Friday. Pilots and maintainers from Tyndall are at Luke as part of dissimilar aircraft training. The unit will return to Tyndall tomorrow.

Army enlisted insignia

The enlisted insignia of the U.S. Army are as follows. Army officer ranks mirror those of the Air Force.







master sergeant, E-8





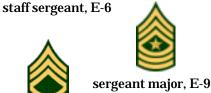
class, E-3



first sergeant, E-8







sergeant first class. E-7



command sergeant specialist, E-4 major, E-9

Tops in Blue to perform at Sundome, admission free to Thunderbolts

By Staff Sgt. Corey Drury

The Air Force's Tops In Blue is offering a free night of family entertainment at the Sundome in Sun City West, Jan. 29 at 7 p.m.

The goal of Tops In Blue is to enhance mission productivity for Air Force members and their families, especially those in remote and isolated locations. During each annual tour, Tops In Blue entertains more than 250,000 military personnel and their families, pre-

senting an average of 120 performances at 100 locations worldwide. The showcase is presented throughout the continental United States, Canada, Europe, Central America. Alaska and the Pacific.

"The 2002 edition of Tops In Blue, 'Spirit Of America,' is a spectacular medley of songs guaranteed to captivate the entire audience," said Ernie

Howard, 56th Services Squadron youth center director. "For almost fifty years, Tops In Blue has been energizing audiences around the world. This year's show is no exception."

According to Tom Edwards, show producer and chief of Air Force entertainment, Tops In Blue is the Air Force's premier entertainment showcase.

Each year, active-duty men and women with military duties as diverse as aircraft mechanics, electronic technicians, security specialists and other functional areas begin at base level by competing in talent shows.

The most talented are then selected to compete at the Air Force Worldwide Talent Contest. From these $contestants, a \, 30\text{-}member \, group \, is \, chosen \, to \, represent$ the best of the best.

Over the span of 40 years, Tops In Blue has performed in films, produced albums and has been fea-

tured on national television with such legends as Ed Sullivan, Bob Hope, Lucille Ball, Barbara Mandrell and Alabama. In 1981, the cast performed the half-time show for the Garden State Bowl in New Jersey. Also, with an estimated 110 million people watching worldwide, the cast presented the halftime entertainment show 'The World of Children's

Tom Edwards

Show producer and chief of Air Force entertainment

best' performers throughout the

"The new 2002 team is a

military."

reflection of the 'best of the

Dreams' for Super Bowl XIX.

"The new 2002 team is a reflection of the best of the best' performers throughout the military," Mr. Edwards said.

Tickets are available at the Sundome or the base Information Tickets and Travel office. For more information, call Ernie Howard at (623) 856-7152.

Commentary

Action Line



Col. Phil Breedlove 56th FW commander

The 56th Fighter Wing Commander's Action Line is your direct line to me. I get personally involved in every reply. Your ideas and concerns help build a stronger foundation on which we can successfully complete our mission and take care of our people.

Before you call the Action Line, please

give Luke's professionals a chance to answer your question in concert with your unit chain of command. If the appropriate expert is unable to provide a satisfactory response, call me at (623) 856-7011 or send an e-mail to command.action line@luke.af.mil. Please include your name and telephone number so I can provide a personal reply to your concern.

E-mail, command.actionline@luke.af.mil or call. (623) 856-7011. For family matters, visit www.luke.af.mil/ lukefam or call, (623) 856-4243

No medicine, no card

Comment: I have a complaint about a recent experience with the hospital and pharmacy. Upon arrival at the hospital pharmacy, I was told to go to the satellite pharmacy for new prescriptions. This didn't bother me too much, but I didn't know when this policy had changed. At the satellite pharmacy, after I patiently waited in line for about 20 minutes, I was told that I must call in my refill. Then, when I presented my stepson's prescription and identification card, they said that his ID card had expired and they confiscated the card. So after all that, I had no prescriptions and no ID card. My stepson is only six years old and technically doesn't need a card until the age of ten. I guess maybe it is worth the co-pay to go downtown to people who can help and are there to help. The benefit of the hospital and pharmacy seem to be more of a hassle than a benefit.

Response: As one of the busiest in the Air Force, the 56th Medical Group Pharmacy has divided up the workload between the hospital and the satellite pharmacies in an effort to better serve customers and the filling of more than 2,300 prescriptions every day. The hospital pharmacy fills new prescriptions sent electronically to the pharmacy by medical group providers. The satellite pharmacy fills all other new and refill prescriptions. The separation of workload increases efficiency and has been in place for more than four years. In addition, the standard procedure is for patients to phone in their refills to the phone number at the top of the prescription bottle by 3 p.m. the day before they want to pick it up. This allows the pharmacy to better manage the workload volume and to focus on new prescriptions as they come in. Under special circumstances, the satellite pharmacy does accept walk-up refill requests and you should not have been turned away for your prescription if that was the case. With regard to your son's identification card, the both Security Forces Squadron has instructed us to confiscate expired cards and direct the individuals to the pass and ID office for a renewal. At that point, your stepson's medical benefits became uncertain and prevented us from filling the prescription.

Leaders set pace for troops

By Maj. Bryan Harris

During the freezing winter of 1776-1777 in Valley Forge, undoubtedly someone pointed out to Gen. George Washington his troops were young and under trained, their equipment was old and worn out, and the time away from homes and families was taking its toll on his troops. A pay-raise was needed, retention was low, and morale was even lower. These are very similar challenges to those we have today.

The results of General Washington's leadership and the determination of his followers to succeed turned the Continental Army from a ragtag collection into the solid regular army that won the American Revolutionary War.

I enjoy reading about great leaders. I learn of their educational backgrounds, the times in which they lived, their writings, their successes and their failures. I can relate to events in their lives and learn how to better handle my daily challenges. I related the following three stories from the chapter on General Eisenhower in the book 'To America.'

During the first invasion General Eisenhower led, in Northern Africa during November 1942, he learned "Optimism and pessimism are infectious as they spread more rapidly from the head downward than in any other direction. Optimism has a most extraordinary effect upon all with whom the commander comes in contact. With this clear realization, I firmly determined my mannerisms and speech in public would always reflect the cheerful certainty of victory any pessimism and discouragement I might ever feel would be reserved for my pillow."

My take: Leaders should set the the right example. When anyone asks how the boss is doing the reply should be "good and getting better." Positive attitude is a force multiplier. If someone sends an inappropriate e-mail, a true leader will delete it and make the sender aware his or her actions were unbefitting. When dissatisfied with a superior's decision, the subordinate should go to the superior's office, shut the door and discuss the decision in private. Good leaders appreciate honest feedback in the right forum.

On March 6, 1943, General Eisenhower wrote to Gen. George Patton, "You must not retain for one instant any man in a responsible position where you have be-

come doubtful of his ability to do the job. This matter frequently calls for more courage than any other thing you will have to do, but I expect you to be perfectly cold-blooded about it.

My take: Leaders must make informed and swift decisions affecting an individual's career for the betterment of the whole. There may be many personal feelings attached and the decision may be secondguessed by others. Even so, failure to make a difficult decision will only bring more failure.

June 3, 1943, General Eisenhower wrote his son, John, a cadet at West Point, "The only quality that can be developed by studious reflection and practice is the leadership of men." Later he added, "the art of leadership is deciding what to do and then getting men to want to do it."

My take: Leaders must be great salesmen. For the last 13 years I have worked closely with the enlisted corps and they have taught me many things. First, rank is no indication of intelligence. I've met many airmen and NCOs with bachelor's degrees, some with master's degrees and one who was earning his Ph.D. Second, all good leaders are not officers and all officers are not good leaders. I've seen a senior airman do more to motivate others and make the mission happen than many with higher ranks. Third, any leader who says, "Do this, because I said so," will probably find himself alone as he tries to take that hill. Be a true leader; explain why something needs to be done and listen to your troops. You will be amazed at the results.

Do you need to be a world leader to get things accomplished? No, but you can learn from their educational backgrounds, the times they lived, their writings, their successes and their failures. You can relate the events in their lives and learn how to better handle daily challenges in yours. Be like General Washington and have the strong will to make things better for your troops. As General Eisenhower did, set the right example. Someone is always looking up to you as his or her mentor. Remember, failure to make a difficult decision will only bring more failure. Lives have been lost because no one would make a decision. Finally, you possess the ability to motivate and be a leader no matter what rank you wear. Generals have not solely won battles. They have been won because someone from the enlisted corps or a junior officer has cried out "follow me."

Former victim discusses ID theft

By Capt. Richard Alford

By now most of you have heard about the TriWest theft and have taken the proper precautions, which include calling all three credit bureaus, placing a fraud alert on your accounts and reviewing the credit reports being sent to you.

If you haven't taken these steps, you need to get on the ball and make the call. As a former victim of identification theft, I'm telling you it can and does happen. Prevention is the key to limiting your exposure to identification theft and the headache that comes with it.

If, after reviewing your credit report, you discover that you are the victim of identification theft you will have questions like: What do I do? Who do I call? Do I file a police report locally? What if the crime takes place

Well, here is the low down based on real-life experi-

First, cancel any card you suspect has been used or set up ir audulently.

Second, notify the credit bureaus that you have been the victim of identification fraud. This second step is important because the fraud alert you placed on your account was temporary and, depending on the credit bureau, may last only 90 days.

Third, you will need to go to www.ftc.gov/ftc/

consumer.htm and click on 'ID theft' and follow the links to file a report online. This step is necessary because identification theft is usually a multi-jurisdictional crime and will require the coordination of multiple federal and state agencies.

Fourth, if you have any evidence, such as credit card statements, you should provide copies to your local police department, which may require you filing an additional report at the local level.

Once you have filed the reports, you will need to work with your creditors to complete any necessary paperwork. These companies will likely want police report numbers and affidavits stating that you did not open the accounts or purchase the items on the account.

Now, I understand this can be confusing. You may talk to multiple people at the same bank or agency and have to repeat your story many times. For your own sanity and peace of mind here is a lesson learned. Before you begin a conversation with anyone at any agency or company, get their name and contact information and keep a log of all of your conversations, specifically noting the date, time, name, contact information and topic of conversation. If a person is unwilling to provide you with contact information, ask to speak to their supervisor.

Finally, remember you have resources on this base to help you through this crisis. If you find yourself the victim of an identification theft and need help with this process, call the legal office at (623) 856-6901 and ask to schedule a legal assistance appointment.

Sortie Scoreboard

January goals as of Jan. 21

Sqaudron	Goal	Flown	Delta
61st FS	289	286	-3
62nd FS	270	279	9
63rd FS	306	319	13
308th FS	284	275	-9
309th FS	261	269	8
310th FS	250	273	23
21st FS	166	157	-9
425th FS	128	135	7

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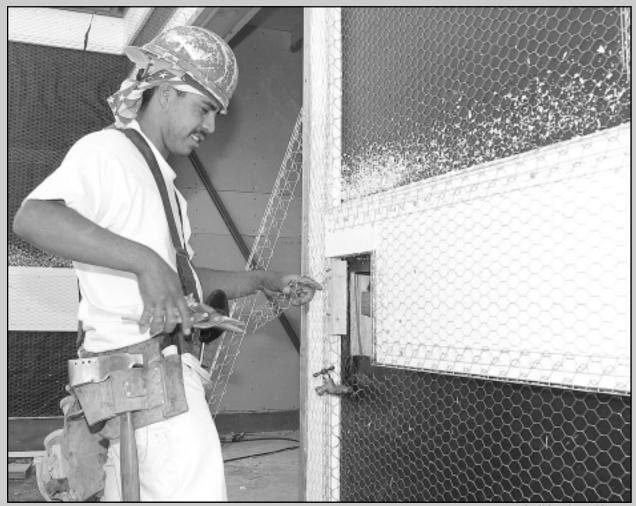
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One down, 100 to go ...



Staff Sqt. Aaron Marcus

Salvador Loera, Swiss Plastering contractor, trims the steel mesh used to hold stucco on the outside of a house for one of many new homes currently being built at Ocotillo Manor on base. Phase I of the construction project, which is expected to produce 101 houses, should continue until approximately October. Phase II will complete the project with the building of 48 additional houses.

VEAP to MGIB deadline looms

"It is imperative that people

payment is made within the

start date and to make

absolutely sure the full

18-month window."

check their LES to confirm the

By Master Sgt. Alan Lewis 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The final deadline for payments to convert from the Veteran's Education Assistance Program to the Mont-

gomery GI Bill is April 31. Anyone who opted to convert from VEAP to the Montgomery GI Bill must have the payment of \$2,700 complete within 18 months of election.

If full payment is not made within the 18-month window, the Department of Veteran's Affairs will deny

the benefits. According to Todd Usnik, Air Force Personnel Center **Education Services specialist**,

this window started on the day the person signed the DD Form 2366 election form.

As an example, if a person signed up Nov. 30, 2001, then they would have to pay the entire \$2,700 by March

The final date to sign up to convert benefits was Oct. 31, 2001. This makes the final deadline for payment April 30.

The payments can be made through allotment in any amount, a lump sum or a combination of the two.

According to Thomas Hawthorn, Education Services section chief at the Air Force Personnel Center, there

are several areas for people to pay attention to make sure their payments are made in full.

'People need to pay close attention to their LES," said Mr. Hawthorn. "The payments they made might not have started the same month they elected to convert their benefits. In the case of those retiring, finance will not take a payment from the last month of active duty.'

According to Mr. Usnik the deadline is critical.

Todd Usnik

Air Force Personnel Center

"It is imperative that people check their LES to confirm the start date and to make absolutely sure the full payment is made within the 18-month window," said Mr.Usnik.

For more information, call the base education office at (623) 856-7722.

Thunderbolt of the Week

Name: 1st Lt. David Magoc, 56th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Duty title: Air Expeditionary Forces officer and assistant installation deployment officer

Hometown: Tarentum, Pa. Time in service: 13 years

Family: Wife, Arlene; daughter, Ashley; and son, Derek

Goals: As a father and husband I want to do the best job possible to support my family emotionally as well as financially. As an Air Force officer, I want to put myself in a position to lead people and do the best job I can for them and the Air Force.

Greatest feat: Receiving my commission after 12.5 years of enlisted service Famous last words: "Whatever"

Hobbies, off duty intrests: Watching movies, spending quality time with

my family and playing golf

Commander's comments: "Lieutenant Magoc is as cool as they come under pressure," said Lt. Col. Gary Larberg, 56th LRS commander. "As installation deployment officer, he is the point man for all AEF related issues, and he knows his business. Dave and the readiness folks have done an outstanding job of preparing wing personnel to meet our AEF taskings and educating all of us on mobility and contingency plans.



Magoc

News Briefs

Customer service closure

The 56th Mission Support Squadron Military Personnel Flight's Customer Service Section will be closed Monday through Wednesday for installation of new DEERS and identification equipment. No identification cards will be issued during this period nor will DEERS updates be available at either the 56th Fighter Wing or 944th FW. In addition, there will be no access to personnel records. Decals and line badges will be issued at the Defense Reutilization Management Office located near Glendale and El Mirage Road. Customer Service will reopen for business Thursday. For more information, call 2nd Lt. Ashley Lindley at (623) 856-3371 or Master Sgt. Leslie Jeanette at (623) 856-7874.

OSC casino night

The Officer's Spouses Club is hosting a Monte Carlo Casino Night fund-raiser at the Officers' Club main ballroom Feb. 21 at 6 p.m. The OSC still is in need of sponsors for tables, donations for luxury auctions, special invitations and fun activities . For more information, call Lisa Kennelly at (623) 772-1652.

Trash and recycling

Trash and recycling pickup and disposal at Luke are contracted services. These contract services are monitored by customer complaint and periodic surveillance by the 56th Civil Engineer Squadron service contracts section. Customers in housing are asked to help ensure compliance by adhering to standards such as refuse/recycle containers not overfilled, bulk pickup items like yard debris being bagged, tree cuttings bundled in four foot lengths and items such as tires and batteries not set out for collection. Customers who do not receive scheduled service or would like additional information, call Rodney Bartling at (623) 856-4434.

Prayer luncheon

Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) Charles Baldwin, deputy chief, Air Force Chaplain Service will be the speaker for the Prayer Luncheon at the Desert Star Enlisted Club Feb. 13 at 11:15 a.m. Tickets are \$6 and can be purchased through the chapel or by contacting unit first sergeants.

New finance hours

The 56th Comptroller Squadron finance office has new hours for Thursdays. The new hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. due to training. For more information, call 1st Lt. Robert Heim at (623) 856-4767.

Red Cross class

The 56th Dental Squadron's Red Cross class begins Monday. There is no registration for the class and individuals interested in the program should stop by the dental squadron and pick up an application or call Master Sgt. Jimmy Daniely at (623) 856-3131 or Staff Sgt. Yvonne Randolph at (623) 856-7533.

Luke Tax Center

The Luke Tax Center, located on the first floor in Bldg. 1150, is now open for 1040E-Z filers. Services will begin Tuesday for all active duty and family members and Feb. 3 for the remaining Luke population. For more information, call Capt. Todd Logan (623) 856-6901.

Rio Salado

More than 300 distance learning classes are available through Rio Salado College. For more information, call (623) 856-3239 or visit the college office on the 3rd floor of Bldg. 1150, room 3138.

Foreign gifts

All Air Force military and civilian personnel and their family members are required to report gifts received from foreign governments if the gift or a combination of gifts at one presentation exceeds a certain value.

The minimal value of gifts was increased from \$260 to \$285. For more information, call the legal office at (623) 856-6901.

Drug abuse: public health, social problem

Capt. Lisa Whitney

56th Medical Group

Many people view drug abuse and addiction as strictly a social problem. Parents, teens, older adults and other members of the community tend to characterize people who take drugs as morally weak or as having criminal tendencies.

These myths have not only stereotyped those with drug-related problems, but also their families, their communities and the health care professionals who work with them. Drug abuse and addiction is a public health problem that affects many people and has wide-ranging social consequences.

Addiction begins when an individual makes a conscious choice to use drugs, but addiction is not just 'a lot of drug use.'

Recent scientific research provides overwhelming evidence that not only do drugs interfere with normal brain functioning creating powerful feelings of pleasure, but they also have longterm effects on brain metabolism and activity. At some point, changes occur in the brain that can turn drug abuse into addiction — a chronic, relapsing illness. Those addicted to

drugs suffer from a compulsive drug craving and cannot quit by themselves. Treatment is necessary to end this compulsive behavior.

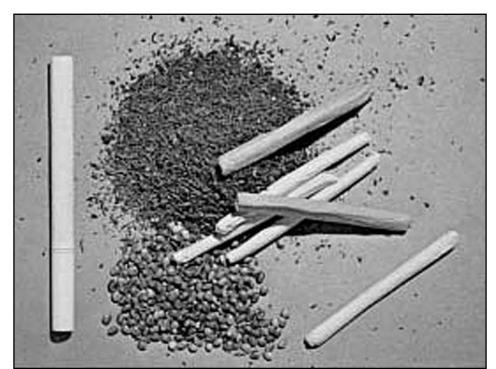
A variety of approaches are used in treatment programs to help patients deal with these cravings and possibly avoid drug relapse.

Research shows addiction is clearly treatable. Through treatment tailored to individual needs, patients can learn to control their condition and live relatively

Treatment can have a profound effect not only on drug abusers, but also on society as a whole by significantly improving social and psychological functioning, decreasing related criminality and violence, and reducing the spread of AIDS. Understanding drug abuse also helps in understanding how to prevent use in the first place.

Results from research have shown that comprehensive prevention programs that involve the family, schools, communities and the media are effective in reducing drug abuse. It is necessary to keep sending the message that it is better to not start at all than to enter rehabilitation if addiction occurs.

A tremendous opportunity exists to effectively change the ways the public un-



Courtesy photo

derstands drug abuse and addiction because of the wealth of scientific data that exists.

Overcoming misconceptions and replacing ideology with scientific knowledge is the best hope for bridging the

'great disconnect'— the gap between the public perception of drug abuse and addiction and the scientific facts.

For more information, call the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program at (623) 856-7579.

Zero tolerance

Officials remind Thunderbolts drug use, AF are incompatible

By Staff Sgt. Corey Drury

There is a thief within our midst that preys upon our desires and promises the world. Believing in the thief gives people false hopes and often leads to destroyed lives and careers.

The thief goes by many names, such as ecstasy, steroids, marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, methamphetamines, PCP, LSD, opiates, barbiturates and others. The Air Force has zero tolerance for associating with this thief and will take punitive action against those that do.

According to Julie Mendoza, Detachment 421 Air Force Office of Special Investigations special agent at Luke, ecstasy, which is more commonly used, is a synthetic, psychoactive drug.

The tablets, which have no medical value and cannot be prescribed legally, may be branded with logos such as butterflies, lightning bolts, zodiac signs, stars and clovers," Agent Mendoza said. "Users taking ecstasy may become dehydrated, have elevated temperature, have an abrupt rise in blood pressure, have a seizure and die.'

The Air Force takes servicemembers' drug abuse seriously, according to Agent Mendoza.



Courtesy photo

"The Air Force uses education and deterrence, most notably in the form of random urinalysis testing to reduce drug demand within its ranks," Agent Mendoza

According to Tech. Sgt. Anthony O'Brien, Drug Demand Reduction Center NCO in charge, the overall number of people testing positive equals to one percent of the total Air Force.

"Airmen are tested for marijuana, cocaine, amphet-

amines, methamphetamines, PCP, LSD, opiates and barbiturates," Sergeant O'Brien said. "Additional tests are performed when other drugs such as ecstasy or steroids are suspected."

"Our goal is not to get just the user, but the indi-

vidual who is supplying the drugs," Agent Mendoza said. "Our responsibility is to identify what those drugs are and make the Air Force aware this is beginning to emerge."

Under Article 112a of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, the maximum punishment a servicemember could face if found guilty of marijuana use is a dishonorable discharge and confinement for two years. For harder drugs, such as cocaine or ecstasy, the maximum penalty could be a dishonorable discharge and five years confinement. Anyone found guilty during a court martial of distribution of an illegal drug could face the maximum punishment of dishonorable discharge and confinement for 15 years.

Agent Mendoza said, "As long as drugs exist we'll have to stay vigilant in combating their presence in the military. The Air Force's responsibility is to try to identify where drug abuse is occurring, eliminate it and take action where necessary, in terms of military justice, education, prevention and deterrence.



Staff Sgt. Christopher Matthews

This is only a test ...

Members of Luke, Vandenburg, Offutt, and Barksdale Air Force Bases, as well as members from the 107th and 161st Air National Guard units, graduated Friday from a week-long honor guard training course conducted by Air Force honor guard members from Bolling Air Force Base, Washington D.C.

AETC promotes club membership

By Staff Sgt. J. LaVoie 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

It pays to be a club member.

That's the message AETC Services leadership is trying to get across to airmen during a two-month con-

test only members can enter. From Feb. 1 until March 3, every time a club mem-

ber purchases food in either club, or the plaza deli, they are entered in a \$100 weekly drawing and the grand prize drawing of a vacation to anywhere the winner "Current AETC Club members will receive an entry

form from any club food operation cashier with a purchase over \$2," said John Hanna, AETC Services Business Branch, adding an additional five entry forms can be received for each \$5 incremental food purchase during the Friday night dining programs.

Salutes

The following individuals are fourth quarter recognition award winners.

56th Security **Forces** Squadron

Airman: Senior Airman Jaime Gomez NCO: Tech. Sgt. James Hayes

Senior NCO: Master Sgt. Michael Mosely Company grade officer:

IMA: Tech. Sgt. Chad Lewis

NCO: Tech. Sgt. Gigi Frost

Minerva-Hill

Sekoch

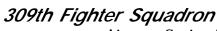
Company

Capt. Jacqueline White

Senior NCO: Master Sgt. Brigidann

Civilian (GS-6 and below): Donna

grade



Civilian (GS-7 and above): Marie

Civilian (federal wage system): Randall

Airman: Senior Airman Shannon Guerra NCO: Staff Sgt. Damian Bunch

Senior NCO: Master Sgt. Jeffrey Kessler

Company grade officer: Capt. Glen Richards

Field grade officer: Maj. Dean Caldwell

Instructor pilot: Maj. Barry Cook Flight commander: Maj.

Stan Duvall Civilian: Ethel 'sadie' Wright

Airman: Airman 1st Class Jessica

Senior NCO: Master Sgt. Gaynell Smith Company grade officer: Capt. Anthony

Civilian (GS-6 and below): Steven

Civilian (GS-7 and above): Joyce Carter

The following individuals are annual recognition award winners.

56th SFS

Airman: Senior Airman Wayne

NCO: Tech. Sgt. Anthony Hall Senior NCO: Master Sgt. Michael Mosely

Company grade officer: 2nd Lt. Gregory Bodenstein

IMA: Tech. Sgt. Randy Lewis

56th MDG

Airman: Airman 1st Class Jeremy **Timmermeyer**

NCO: Staff Sgt. Nichole Helsley Senior NCO: Senior Master Sgt. Rainne Crawley

Company grade officer: Capt. Guy Majkowski

Field grade officer: Maj. Michael

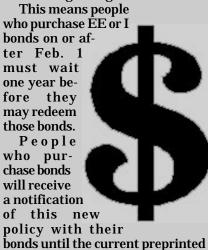
Civilian (GS-06 and below) Karen Ser-Civilian (GS-07 and above): Marie

Manhardt Civilian (federal wage system): Ronald Higgins

Minimum holding

WASHINGTON (AFPN) -

Department of Treasury officials have announced that the minimum holding period for Series EE and I bonds increases from six to 12 months beginning Feb. 1.



bond stock reflects the change. More information is available at www.savingsbonds.gov.



officer:

56th Medical Group Wing staff agencies Airman: Airman 1st Class Rebecca

Manhardt

NCO: Staff Sgt. Michael Manchester Gunn

Weldon

period increases

Club

Continued from Page 4

AETC club members do not have to make a purchase to obtain an entry form, however. A club member may sketch the Air Force Club logo, which can be found on club bills, and present the sketch to the cashier. They will receive one entry form per day for each color logo sketch they bring in.

The clubs offer many dining opportunities where club members can enter.

The Officers' Club is open for lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily and for dinner from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Fridays. Dinner reservations at the Officers' Club are highly recommended.

The Desert Star Enlisted Club is open for lunch Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dinner is served from 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays and from 5 to 9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. The enlisted club also has brunch on Sundays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Eating during these times will enter members in the grand prize drawing of \$3,500 toward a vacation of the winner's choice. The winner receives a voucher to pay the cost of cruise, air travel, hotel, rental and park and resort admission costs.

Retired Master Sgt. Dale Sheppard, club mem-



Senior Airman Julie Simmons

Nila Hartsough, Desert Star Enlisted Club cashier, charges Staff Sgt. Jason Webb, 56th Communications Squadron graphics technician, for lunch on his club card at the enlisted club Wednesday.

ber, won the last grand prize from Luke, a trip to Florida, including airfare for two, car rental, hotel for four days and passes into several theme parks.

"I eat here quite often and participate in club activities," Mr. Sheppard said. "It was exciting."

He also won a weekly drawing of \$100. Weekly drawings will start again Feb. 1 and run through March 31.

"We want people to know that club membership is rewarding," said Debbie Diveney, 56th Services Squadron commercial sponsorship coordinator. "If you eat there regularly it pays."

56th MDG to update children's shot records

By Master Sgt. Alan Lewis

56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Children's immunization records are currently being updated into a program to help ensure the records' accuracy.

The Population Health Office at Brooks Air Force Base, Texas, recently conducted a quarterly summary of the immunization status of all children under 3 years old in its automated system.

"To ensure the accuracy of the data, the hospital needs all parents to bring in their child's yellow immunization records, and if the child's medical records are not maintained at Luke, they will need to bring them in as well," said Capt. Kerry Castillo, 56th Medical Group health care integrator. "The records need to be brought in by Feb. 15. The staff will compare the records and make updates as needed."

Three ways for parents to bring in the records are:

• Bring the record to the immunization clinic Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• Bring the record to the pediatric clinic Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• FAX the record to the pediatrics clinic at (623) 856-7567 to the attention of 'IBT.'

According to Captain Castillo the computer database is locally derived.

First military baby born at Del Webb facility

By Staff Sgt. J. LaVoie

56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The military's partnership with Del Webb Hospital in Sun City was proven a success with the recent birth of Dylan Ranger Facteau.

Dylan, the first birth at the Luke Women's Center at Del Webb, was born Dec. 3 at 1:53 p.m. The center was developed after Luke's hospital closed its obstetrics unit.

"Everyone was so nice and attentive," said Danielle Facteau, Dylan's mother.

Danielle and her husband, Army Sergeant Patrick Facteau, initially wanted to be referred to a civilian doctor, but after touring the Del Webb facility and meeting the military staff, the Facteau's decided to stay at Del Webb.

The delivery was smooth and the treatment received exceeded expectations, Mrs. Facteau said.

"I recommend the (the Del Webb) facility to anyone who is going to have a baby," she added.

The Del Webb facility includes a birthing suite and separate nursery, but it's also the small touches that make the hospital different; including Brahm's Lullaby playing in the lobby for friends and relatives to announce the 6-pound, 11-ounce arrival.

Since Dylan was the first military baby born at Del Webb, Col. Don Taylor, 56th Medical Group commander, was on hand to present a gift bag full of baby necessities from the 56th Family Support Center. The family support center does this for all families who are E-4 and below.

The Facteau's, as all families with a new arrival, also received a diaper bag from Del Webb. As part of Del Webb's services, the Facteau's also received a steak and shrimp dinner on the last night of their two-day stay.



Senior Airman Ron Johnson

Maj. Justin Nast, 56th Medical Group physician, checks up on Dylan Ranger Facteau, born Dec. 3, to Danielle and Army Sergeant Patrick Facteau.

Leaders announce core competencies

New approach forms firm foundation, ensures top capabilities, effects

By Master Sgt. Scott Elliott

WASHINGTON — The Air Force's senior leaders debuted the service's new approach to describing its core competencies this week.

Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper made this announcement in two separate messages to all airmen. Dr. Roche released his first "The Secretary's Vector" Jan. 14, while General Jumper's latest "Chief's Sight Picture" was published Jan. 15.

The competencies are developing airmen, technology-to-warfighting and integrating operations. According to Dr. Roche, these three elements are fundamental to how the Air Force views itself, how it is viewed by leaders and colleagues, and how the service develops its capabilities for joint warfighting.

These unique institutional qualities set the Air Force apart from the other services and every other military force in the world," Dr. Roche said in The Secretary's Vector. "By identifying and keeping these competencies foremost in our vision, we can more effectively advance these unique capabilities, as well as the ultimate effects we provide to the nation."

These core competencies are not new, General Jumper said in the Chief's Sight Picture.

'Rather, they are the unique institutional qualities inherent in everything we've done and continue to do,"

Core competencies form the foundation upon which the Air Force organizes, trains and equips, and form the cornerstones of the service's strength as a military

Previously, the service had distilled its areas of expertise into the following six distinct capabilities and labeled them core competencies: air and space superiority, global attack, rapid global mobility, precision engagement, information superiority and agile combat support.

According to the secretary and chief of staff, the Air Force's very nature of developing and delivering air and space power are at the root of the need to recognize these core competencies.

"Our systems may change, our threats may vary, our tactics may evolve and our people may come and go, but these three core competencies remain the constants that define our Air Force and enable us to fight

"These unique institutional

from the other services and

qualities set the Air Force apart

every other military force in the

and win America's wars," General Jumper said.

Of the three air and space core competencies, the secretary and chief of staff said developing airmen is the heart of combat capability.

"The ultimate source of combat capability resides in the men and women of the Air Force." Dr. Roche said. "The val-

ues of strategy, technology and organization are diminished without professional airmen to leverage their attributes.'

world."

Technology-to-warfighting involves the tools of combat capability.

"We combine the tremendous technological advancements of stealth, global communications connectivity, global positioning, and more, to put cursors on targets and steel on the enemy," General Jumper said. "It is our unique ability to apply various technologies in unison so effectively that allows us to translate our air and space power vision into decisive operational capa-

They believe integrating operations means maximizing combat capabilities.

Innovative operational concepts and the efficient integration of all military systems — air, land, maritime, space and information — ensures maximum flexibility in the delivery of desired effects across the spectrum of conflict," Dr. Roche said.

According to General Jumper, victory in the 21st century belongs to those who can most quickly collect intelligence, communicate information and bring capabilities to bear against targets around the globe.

"This is precisely what our Joint and Combined Air Operations Centers achieve," he said. "The result, in-

tegrated operations, is our unique ability to ... bring effects on the enemy at times and places of our choosing.'

By continually striving toward the air and space core competencies, they said, the Air Force will realize the potential of its capabilities.

"We can achieve success in these six distinctive capabilities only if we're first successful in our three (air and space) core competen-

cies," General Jumper said. "Only then do we bring the decisive effects of air and space power into joint warfighting."

Dr. James Roche

Secretary of Air Force

"Collectively, the air and space core competencies reflect the visions of the founders of airpower ... and serve to realize the potential of air and space forces," Dr. Roche said.

"Our continued focus on and nurturing of these core competencies will enable us to remain the world's greatest air and space force," he said.

New short-term enlistments coming

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — A new military short-term enlistment program will begin Oct. 1 aimed at expanding the opportunities for all Americans to serve the country.

Congress authorized the National Call to Service enlistment option as part of the fiscal 2003 National Defense Authorization Act.

The program allows the military services a new option to reach a group of young Americans who otherwise might not serve because of the length of traditional enlistment options, said Bob Clark, assistant director in the Department of Defense's accession policy directorate.

The program will work like this: A recruit enlists for the option and incurs a 15-month active-duty service obligation following completion of initial-entry training, for a total active-duty commitment of about 19 months.

Following successful completion of active duty, servicemembers may re-enlist for further active duty or transfer to the selected reserve for a 24-month obligation.

Once this is completed, servicemembers may stay in the selected reserve or transfer to individual ready reserve for the remainder of an eight-year commitment.

"The unique piece of this legislation is that while in the individual ready reserve, these young people will be given the opportunity to move into one of the other national service programs, such as AmeriCorps or the Peace Corps, and time

in those will count toward their eightyear obligation," Mr. Clark said.

While the Army and Navy already have a limited two-year enlistment program, this is the first time the Air Force and Marine Corps will offer the option.

Mr. Clark said that the option would be limited to high-quality recruits — those with a high school diploma and scores in the top half of aptitude tests. Officials hope this will make the military more attractive to college-bound youth who might volunteer to take a short period out between high school and college, but would not take off that three- or four-year period.

He said he feels the option may also attract college graduates interested in serving their country before attending graduate school. But perhaps the largest potential pool for the option is with community college graduates who might serve the country for a short time and use available incentives to enter a four-year school, Mr. Clark said.

There are four incentives under the option. The first is a \$5,000 bonus payable upon completion of active duty service

The second is a loan-repayment option also paid at the end of the active-duty portion. The legislation allows for repayment of up to \$18,000 of qualifying student loans.

The final two incentives are tied to, but not part of, the Montgomery G.I. Bill. One gives 12 months of a full Montgomery G.I. Bill stipend — currently about \$900 a month.

"This should attract college graduates looking to go to grad school," Mr. Clark said

The other incentive offers 36 monthly payments at one-half of the current Montgomery G.I. Bill stipend.

"We look at this as being an incentive to both high school graduates or maybe college students who are financially strapped who may need to sit out for a period, serve the country, learn, see the world and then go to school," he said.

The services will set the enlistment criteria. Military specialties that involve long-term training will not be offered. Basic medical specialties, some engineer skills, and personnel, administration and combat specialties will be part of the mix. The first people who opt for this program will go into the delayed-entry program beginning Oct. 1.

Mr. Clark was adamant that servicemembers in this program would not be "second-class citizens." He said although they will serve shorter periods of time, they would be treated the same way as those with longer-term enlistments.

Traditional enlistment terms are three, four, five and six years, he said. The program will start with a small number of inductees, but there is no set number. As the program begins, DOD will work with national service organizations to ensure recruits under this program understand all their options.

Mr. Clarks said the department is coming off its most successful recruiting year ever.

"The department does not need this program to fill the ranks," he said. "But we are excited about offering the chance to serve the country to young men and women who ordinarily might not."

On-library saves time

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — People seeking civilian job information and supervisors considering creating a position or reorganizing work can save hours of research time by using a recently expanded electronic library of civilian job information

More than 700 civilian positions are covered by the Standard Core Personnel Document Library Web Site. Each listing contains a position description, performance plan and recruitment criteria.

Since 1996, more than 28,000 positions have been filled using documents from the library, said Chrissy Ayers, manager of the document library at the Air Force Personnel Center.

Previously, supervisors faced hours of research to effectively write or revise a civilian position description, she said.

"Now people can check the SCPD library for existing established position descriptions before developing one on their own," said Ms. Ayers. "If a listed position fits the local work situation and is agreed upon with the servicing classification specialist it can then be tailored for a specific position."

The library is broken down by pay plan and allows people to search by job family.

(Courtesy of AFPC News Serice.)

Feature



Above: Airman 1st Class Tená Grant, 56th Fighter Wing Command Post emergency actions controller, responds to the primary crash phone. Right: Staff Sgt. Michael Manchester, 56th Fighter Wing Command Post training NCO in charge, plots a cordon, which represents a restricted area in the event of a disaster.



Photos by Staff Sqt. Aaron Marcus

Command post:

The eyes and ears of the 56th Fighter Wing

By 2nd Lt. Kevin G. Tuttle

56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

They are the center of the 56th Fighter Wing, operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

As the eyes and ears of Luke, there's never a time they aren't available and through them, problems get solved.

The 56th FW Command Post provides support to 25 squadrons and 191 aircraft as part of the world's largest fighter wing.

In 2002, the command post staff tracked more than 32,000 training sorties and assisted in 219 in-flight and 84 ground emergencies.

"The command post is the 24-hour emergency point of contact for the entire base," said Capt. Paul Hamel, 56th FW Command Post command and control chief. "Once the information is received in the command post, we then

make contact with the appropriate commander, first sergeant or staff agency to resolve the problem."

The command post is also responsible for all force protection condition changes, weather dissemination and base recalls, as well as tracking and monitoring the arrival and departure of Air Force general officers and wing commanders.

"We track our commanders and keep them informed of all incoming and outgoing information," said Airman 1st Class Crystal Wood, 56th FW Command Post senior emergency actions controller. "We track aircraft air refueling and cross country flights, handle reports to higher headquarters and handle classified messages and equipment. We have to know a little bit about everything."

For some junior enlisted troops, working in the command post is

beneficial to their career paths.

"Since it's a 24-hour operation, the command post has a flexible schedule, so school and extra curricular activities are easy to schedule," said Airman 1st Class Jennifer Herman, 56th FW Command Post emergency actions controller. "Plus, we get to interact with commanders every day and the command post is one of the more highly respected agencies on base."

The command post can be a stressful place to work at times.

"Any situation can happen at any time," Airman Wood said. "We have no notice before events and controllers have to be precise in their actions at all times. We receive all information from other agencies, but if controllers pass incorrect information along, we take the heat. That doesn't happen often, though, because we try to verify information through other agencies

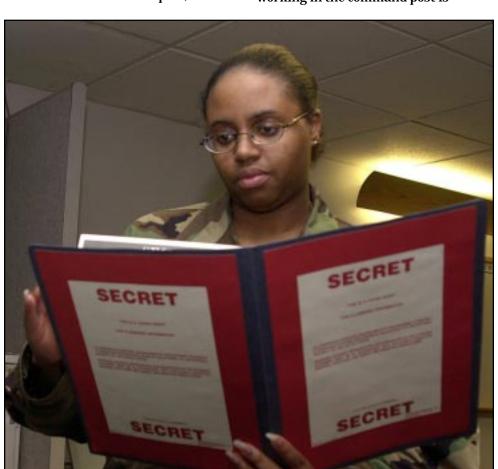
beforehand."

Sept. 11, 2001 is a day that will stick out in everyone's mind, Airman Wood said.

"There was a mess of commanders, messages and never before implemented plans that were thrown at us," she said. "But because we were prepared, everything was handled in a timely manner and all information flowed smoothly."

Captain Hamel says he's pleased with the operation of the command nost.

"It's a collection of hard working, dedicated and professional military — members who have one goal in mind, to accomplish the mission," he said. "We've been selected as the AETC Command Post of the Year four out of the last five years and we are poised to keep that tradition going as we await the decision for 2002."





Above: Capt. Paul Hamel, 56th Fighter Wing Command Post command and control chief, verifies the identification of Tech. Sgt. Mark Davis, 56th Communications Squadron photographer, in the containment area of the command post prior to entry. Left: Staff Sgt. LaSharne Moore, 56th Fighter Wing Command Post, status of resource and training system monitor, reviews SORTS information before briefing the 56th FW commander on readiness information.

Lifestyl es

Movies

Cost is \$3 per adult and \$1.50 for children 11 and under. Thursdays at 7 p.m. are free and Saturday matinees at 2 p.m. are \$1.

For more information or for a movie schedule, e-mail lukeafbtheater@yahoo.com.



Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. "The Hot Chick" (PG-13)

Starring Rob Schneider, Anna Faris, Mathew Lawrence, Eric Christian Olsen, Robert Davi, Melora Hardin, Alexandra Holden, and Megan Kuhlmann. A popular yet mean-spirited teenage girl wakes up one day to find herself turned into a man in his 30s. Along the way to finding out how she ended up like that (and how to get back into her own body), she discovers how shallow and cruel she's always been.



Friday at 9:30 p.m.

"Adam Sandler's Eight Crazy Nights" (PG-13) Starring Adam Sandler, Austin Stout, Kevin Mealon, Rob Schneider, Norm Crosby and Jon Lovitz.

In this animated comedy Davey Stone, a 33-year old party animal, finds himself in trouble with the law. The judge sentences Davey to spend the holiday as the assistant referee for the youth basketball league or go to jail. Davey thinks he's gotten off easy until he meets Whitey Duvall, the eccentric, elf-like

head referee. The mismatch between Whitey's good heart and Davey's constant troublemaking antics soon have them both wondering if going to jail wouldn't have been easier! (78 minutes)



Saturday at 2 p.m.

"Harry Potter, Chamber Of Secrets" (PG)
Starring Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma
Watson, Tom Felton, Bonnie Wright, Harry Melling,
Kennth Branagh, John Cleese and Robbie Coltrane.

The follow-up to Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone finds young wizard Harry Potter (Radcliffe) and his friends Ron (Grint) and Hermione (Watson) facing new challenges during their second year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry as they try to discover a dark force that is terrorizing the school. (161 minutes)



Sunday at 6 p.m. "Solaris" (PG-13)

Upon arrival at the space station orbiting an ocean world called Solaris, a psychologist discovers that the commander of an expedition to the planet has died mysteriously. Other strange events soon start happening as well, such as the appearance of old acquaintances of the crew, including some, like the psychiatrist's wife, who are dead. (95 minutes)

Thursday at 7 p.m. "Analyze That" (R)

Starring Robert De Niro, Billy Crystal, Lisa Kudrow, Joe Viterelli and Cathy Moriarty-Gentile.



Mob boss Paul Vitti (De Niro) is nearing the end of his term in Sing Sing. Day after day New York's most notorious gangland figure walks around in a semi-catatonic stupor, occasionally breaking into songs from West Side Story. Is Vitti having a nervous breakdown because of recent threats on his life or is his behavior merely a ploy to get him sprung from jail early? The FBI isn't sure and neither is his former psychotherapist Ben Sobel (Crystal), who is called in to consult on the case. (95 minutes)

Jan. 31 at 7 p.m.

"Star Trek: Nemesis" (PG-13)

Starring Patrick Stewart, Jonathan Frakes, Brent Spiner, Levar Burton, Michael Dorn, Marina Sirtis, Ron Perlman, Gates McFadden and Kate Mulgrew.



The cast of "Star Trek: The Next Generation" returns on a diplomatic mission to initiate peace with the Romulans. But upon arrival to the alien planet, the crew is faced with a threat that could lead to the Earth's destruction, and Picard meets his most dangerous adversary yet, a surprisingly personal nemesis. (116 minutes)

Jan. 31 at 9:30 p.m.

"Empire" (R)

Starring John Leguizamo, Peter Sarsgaard, Denise Richards, Sonia Braga and Isabella Rossellini.

Victor Rosa runs a street drug business that peddles a heroin mix he calls Empire. His fiancée, a college student, befriends a classmate with an investment-banker boyfriend who introduces Victor to a new life on Wallstreet and a chance to leave the violence of South Bronx. (95 minutes)

Around Base

Retirement ceremony

A civil service retirement ceremony is scheduled for retired Chief Master Sgt.Geno Piccoli, Jan. 31 at 4:30 p.m. at the Desert Star Enlisted Club. A reception will follow. Fore more information, call (623) 856-6378.

Voices Take Flight concert

The second annual Voices Take Flight concert designed to promote military, music and heighten awareness of Lou Gehrig's disease will take place March 1 at Phoenix First Assembly at 7 p.m. The concert costs just \$5 and will highlight the U.S. Naval Academy Women's Glee Club and the Grammy Award winning Phoenix Boy's Choir. For tickets, call (480) 609-3888 or stop by ITT.

Free how-to clinic

The community center and Lowe's Home Improvement Center will demonstrate how to install laminate flooring Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the community center. Sample supplies and materials are included. For more information, call (623) 856-7152.

Free child care

Active-duty military of all ranks who have PCS orders in or out of Luke can receive up to 20 hours of free child care with FCC providers. For more information, call the family support center at (623) 856-6839.

'Kids in the Kitchen'

Children ages, 6 to 12, can learn to make a tasty treat at the youth center Wednesday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$3. Register by Monday. For more information, call (623) 856-6225.

Super Bowl party

Join friends and family for a Super Bowl party Sunday at 10 a.m. at the Desert Star Enlisted Club. Get free hamburgers, chicken and hot dogs with all the fixin's. Door prizes will be given. For more information, call (623) 935-2610.

Children's story time

Clifford stories will be featured at the library Thursday at 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Live theater performances

Luke Experience will perform "Murder Well Rehearsed," written by John R. Carroll, and "I Bring You Flowers," written by William Lang at the base theater Feb. 4, 5 and 6 at 7 p.m. Both plays are being produced by special arrangement with Baker's Plays. The Community Center production has a recommended PG-13 rating for the audience. For more information, call (623) 856-7152.

Dinner dance

Choose from prime rib, grilled Halibut or lemon chicken at the Officers' Club Tuesday. The music of Bobby and Charlene Freeman can be heard from 6 to 9 p.m. For more information, call (623) 856-6446.

Birthday bowling parties

Celebrate birthdays for children and youth up to age 18 at Luke Lanes. Each bowler receives two games, food, beverage and ice cream for \$7 per person. For more information or to book a date, call (623) 856-6529.



Parents' night out

Parents can have a night on the town while children, ages 6 to 12, can choose from a variety of activities at the youth center today from 6 to 10 p.m.

Deployed family dining

The Ray V. Hensman Dining Facility offers meals to family members of those deployed in support of contingency operations Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 6 p.m. The adult meals are \$2.50 to \$3.50 with a copy of temporary duty assignment orders.

January cultural meals

The Ray V. Hensman Dining Facility features cultural meals
Wednesday served from
10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
The Falcon Inn also features cultural meals for lunch and dinner each Tuesday and sea food is served Thursdays. Steaks are served at lunch and dinner on the third Friday of each month.

Extended childcare

Additional childcare is provided for families with extended hours, evening, weekend or shift change schedules. For more information, call (623) 856-7472.

Midnight bowling

Bowl from 9:30 p.m. to midnight every Friday and Saturday at Luke Lanes. Cost is \$10 for club members, \$12 for nonmembers and \$5 for nonbowlers.

Family Xtreme bowling

Up to five people can bowl Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. for \$19.95 per lane for two hours or \$2.25 per game per person. Bowl 4 to 9 p.m. for \$1.75 per game.

Eligible taxpayers go online for free tax filing services

"Free File makes it easy. Now

they can save time, money and

get their refunds in half the time

by filing their taxes online for

ST. LOUIS (AFPN) — The Treasury Department, Office of Management and Budget and the Internal Revenue Service in Washington launched a new Web site Jan. 17 featuring private-sector partners who will allow eligible taxpayers to prepare and file their taxes online for free. A substantial number of citizens will be able to use this service.

President Bush proposed free online tax filing last February as one of his e-government initiatives. Less

than one year later, millions of Americans will benefit from free online tax filing services if they are eligible. Treasury, OMB and IRS officials have made this possible through a public-private partnership with some tax software companies known as the Free File Alliance.

According to information found on the IRS Web site, Free File is an easier, faster and secure

way for citizens to file taxes and will also allow Americans to get refunds in half the time, said officials.

"No one likes paying taxes," said Kenneth Dam, acting treasury secretary. "It's too confusing and time consuming. The launch of this new Web site is great news for millions of Americans. Free File makes it easy. Now they can save time, money and get their refunds in half the time by filing their taxes online for free."

Each FFA member company sets taxpayer eligibility requirements for its own program. These requirements will differ from company to company. Generally,

eligibility will be based on factors such as age, adjusted gross income, state residency, military status or eligibility to file a Form 1040EZ or for the Earned Income Tax Credit. Taxpayers can review the list of companies, found on the Free File section of the IRS Web site, where eligibility requirements are shown company by company.

The primary candidates for Free File are those taxpayers who prepare their own taxes and still file paper returns. Last filing season, the IRS received nearly 85

million paper returns, while nearly 47 million efiled returns.

"Free File puts e-file within reach of more tax-payers than ever," said acting IRS Commissioner Robert Wenzel. "They'll soon discover what the 47 million taxpayers who e-filed last year already know: e-file is quicker, e-file is more accurate, e-file is the best way to confirm the IRS received your return, and it's the fastest route to a refund."

E-government is an integral part of the president's management agenda to make it easier for citizens and businesses to interact with the government, save tax-payer dollars and streamline citizen-to-government transactions. A copy of the president's e-government strategy, which includes information on each of the e-government initiatives, is available on the OMB Web site

Kenneth Dam

Acting treasury secretary

Treasury Department

A Free File initiative fact sheet, which includes list of the FFA members and frequently asked questions, can be found on the IRS Web site at http://www.irs.gov/app/freeFile/welcome.jsp.

Notice To Claimants

In accordance with AFI 34-244 paragraph 3.1.5, notice is hereby given that Staff Sgt. Rafael R. Cubillas is now deceased. The undersigned has been appointed Summary Court Officer for the purpose of estate settlement in accordance with AFI 34-244. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby on notice to present their claims. Claims must be presented by mailing or presenting a written signed statement to: 2nd Lt. Steve Grove, 56th CMS/MXMP, 6505 N. Tovrea Dr., Luke AFB, Ariz., 85309

In accordance with AFI 34-244 paragraph 3.1.5, notice is hereby given that Senior Airman Neil Fillmore is now deceased. The undersigned has been appointed Summary Court Officer for the purpose of estate settlement in accordance with AFI 34-244. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby on notice to present their claims. Claims must be presented by mailing or presenting a written signed statement to: 2nd Lt. Melissa Rodseth, 56 CES/CEV, 13970 W Lightening St., Luke AFB, Ariz., 85309-1149

In accordance with AFI 34-244 paragraph 3.1.5, notice is hereby given that Airman 1st Class John R. Grimmenga is now deceased. The undersigned has been appointed Summary Court Officer for the purpose of estate settlement in accordance with AFI 34-244. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby on notice to present their claims. Claims must be presented by mailing or presenting a written signed statement to: 1st Lt. Denver M.A. Braa, 6608 N. Tovrea Dr., Luke AFB, Ariz., 85309-1847, (623) 856-5573, fax: (623) 856-4360, denver.braa@luke.af.mil.

Chapel News

Worship schedule

The following services and classes are at the Luke Community Chapel unless stated otherwise:

Protestant

- Sunday traditional service is at 11 a.m. at the Chapel on the Mall.
- Sunday school program is at 9:30 a.m.

 Sunday gospel service is at 8:30 a.m. at the Chapel on the Mall. Sunday contemporary service is at 11 a.m.; children's church is also available.

Young adults wallyball is Thursdays at 5 p.m. at the gym. • "The Way" Bible study is Thurs-

days at 7 p.m. • "Young Adults at the Way" is Saturday at 6 p.m.

Catholic

- Sunday Mass is at 9:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.
 - Weekday Mass is at 11:30 a.m.

Muslim

 Muslim Friday Prayer (Jumu's Salah) is Fridays at 1 p.m.

 Quaranic recitation/Arabic class is Tuesdays at noon.

Wicca

 Those interested in starting a Wiccan faith group can contact Airman 1st Class Elizabeth Hunter at (623) 935-6225 or e-mail wiccagreengoddess@yahoo.com.

Religious education

 Confirmation classes are Sunday at 4 p.m.

> Sunday at 11 a.m. in Bldg. 1150 in the third floor atrium. • Baptism seminars for parents of children under 7 years old are at 7 p.m. every first

• CCD classes are

and second Monday of the month at "The

Youth events

- The junior Catholic youth group meets Tuesdays from 5 to p.m.
- The Catholic youth group meets Wednesdays from 5:30 to

For more information on these programs, call (623) 856-6211.

Outdoor Recreation

The Outdoor Recreation Center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call (623) 856-6267.

Fort Tuthill fun

Fort Tuthill offers a variety of activities. Arts and crafts for children are each Sunday in January at 9 a.m. Friday family movie night with free popcorn begins at 7 p.m. Free pool is scheduled for Saturday at 5 p.m.

Sunrise ski trip

Spend a day on the slopes of the White Mountains in Sunrise, Ariz. Saturday. The van departs 5 a.m. and returns 8 p.m. The cost of \$25 per person does not include ski equipment or lift tickets.



Winterfest

Fort Tuthill celebrates Winterfest Jan. 31 through Feb. 2. Activities include a family movie Friday night with free popcorn. Cross-country skiing lessons, snowman building contest, snowball toss and tube-run races are on Saturday with s'mores around the firepit that night. If there is no snow, there will be ice skating at Jay Lively in Flagstaff. The weekend will include a pancake breakfast and

winter crafts. For more information, call (623) 856-3401.

Valentines Day skiing

Ski for two full days on the Wasatch Mountains near Salt Lake City Feb. 14 through 17. The cost of \$310 per person includes ski equipment, three nights lodging, lift tickets, round trip transportation and continental breakfasts. For more information, call (623) 856-3401.

Equipment rental

New items available to rent at the outdoor recreation center include Aliner camping trailers, folding chairs and a flag football set. A 25 percent discount is offered during January on all equipment rental items in the lobby. A 50-percent discount is offered on camping trailers and boats.

Super Bowl Sunday gaming tour

Enjoy a turnaround trip to Laughlin, Nev., Sunday. The cost of \$10 per person includes free buffet, coupon book and roundtrip transportation.

Vehicle resale

Luke active-duty military, retirees and Defense Department civilians can sell their personal vehicles at the resale lot behind the bowling center. Cost is \$10 per 30-day period.

Pavilion reservations

Reservations for the pavilions at Fowler Park and Silver Wings Pool are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Sports



Staff Sgt. Christopher Matthews

Run, don't walk ...

Thunderbolts participate in the 56th Services Squadron Fitness Center's Martin Luther King, Jr. Day fun run Friday. Matt Larson won first place in the male category and Lisha Jaramillo won first place in the female category. The St. Valentine's Day fun run is scheduled for Feb. 14 at 7:30 a.m. at the fitness center. For more information, call Judy Peterson at (623) 856-7152.

Sports Shorts

Youth swimming lessons

Youth, ages 6 months to 16 years, can sign up for swimming lessons at the Litchfield Park Recreation Center. Cost is \$15 per person for six one-half hour group sessions. Register at Outdoor Recreation, Bldg. 247. For more information, call (623) 856-9334.

T-ball and baseball registration

Parents can register children, ages 5 and 6, for T-ball; ages 7 and 8, for coach-pitch; ages 9 to 11, for machine-pitch and youth, ages 12 to 14 for kid-pitch baseball at the youth center today through Feb. 14 from 2 to 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (623) 856-6225.

Play soccer

The varisty soccer team is looking for players. Practice is Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the softball fields. For more information, call (623) 856-6241.

Read-to-bowl

Children, ages 6 to 12, can receive a certificate

good for one free game of bowling for each book report they submit to the library staff on a book read at their appropriate age level. For more information, call (623) 856-6529.

Swimming lessons

The Luke aquatics program offers private swimming lessons to youth and adults at the Litchfield Park Pool. The cost is \$10 per person. For more information, call (623) 856-9334.

Bass tournament

The 78th Mission Support Group, Civilian Recreation Division, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, is sponsoring the 2003 DOD bass tournament. The tournament will be at Goose Pond Colony, Lake Guntersville, Ala., from Mar. 31 to Apr. 4 and is open to all military, active, reserve, guard, retired and dependents age 16 to 23. For more information, contact Lynne Brackett at (478) 922-4415 or Lynne.Brackett@robins.af.mil.

Sports writers

The Thunderbolt staff is looking for sports writers from around base who would like to see their articles in the Thunderbolt. Those interested can contact Airman 1st Class Kara Philp at (623) 856-8182.

Nautilus

Nautilus training is available by appointment at the fitness center Tuesdays at 9 a.m. and Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. For more information or to make an appointment, call (623) 856-6241.

Tae Kwon Do

The community center is offering Tae Kwon Do instruction Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 7 p.m. for youth, ages 7 to 13; and from 7 to 8 p.m. for adults. The cost is \$35 per month per person or \$45 per month for two family members.

Junior golf classes

Youth, ages 5 to 17, can learn golf from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Saturdays. Students will learn putting, chipping, pitching and full swings. The cost of \$50 for four sessions for beginners and \$65 for intermediate players includes range balls and green fees. Private lessons are \$35 each. The junior program offers a "Junior Golfer's First Training Book — A Parent's Guide to Teaching Their Junior." For more information, call (623) 535-8355.



Capture the flag ...

Kenny Moore, 21st Fighter Squadron Gamblers, makes a run for the goal while Jorel Justus and Steve DeRuvo, 607th Air Control Squadron Snakes, stop him during Tuesday's flag football game. The Gamblers won 35-6. The next game will be the American Leauge playoff games Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the field adjacent to the Fitness Center.

Senior Airman Ron Johnson